

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting; Wed. January 21st 2009 @ 7:00

From the President...

Happy New Year! I hope this greeting finds you in good health and comfortably warm. Although the winter season upon us, I am hoping that the weather will allow everyone a chance to get together for the next meeting. At our next meeting we will have a chance to look at stamp material that John Cortan will be bringing along.

One thing that is going to be a help in building our collections is to know who has an interest in what area of philately. That could be a specialist collection such as a single country, but surprisingly, many of us also have side areas of interest. Updating this list will help attract dealers for the annual stamp show in the fall as well as for the upcoming meetings. Please send your stamp interests to me at my email address psvisser@hurontel.on.ca or by contacting any one of the executive by telephone.

As a normal meeting activity, please consider bringing some item that is of philatelic interest to you. Perhaps you may be looking for some information, but whatever it may be, it would be nice to have something to share together. It is amazing just how much stamp material we may have squirreled away without really knowing what it is. Here is a chance to combine our collective knowledge and make an interesting evening.

In conclusion to this New Year welcome, please consider how we may collectively make our meetings interesting to new members. A great way of sharing our hobby is to invite fellow collectors to come share an evening together. I'm looking forward to seeing you shortly.

Cheers
Phil Visser
President OSSC

Coming Events...

JAN. 16 - 18, Toronto, ON

Unipex Stamp and Coin Show, Rameses Temple Shrine Club, 3100 Keele St. Hours: Fri. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and parking, door prizes and licensed snack bar. For more information, contact (416) 242-5900.

JAN. 24, St. Catharines, ON

60th Cathex, Grantham Lions Club, 732 Niagara St. Free admission and parking, lunch counter, 14 dealers, club circuit. Driving directions: Niagara St. has an exit from the QEW in St. Catharines. The hall is located 4km north of the QEW on Niagara St. Website: <http://home.cogeco.ca/~stampclub/home.htm>. Sponsor/Affiliate: St. Catharines Stamp Club. Email: stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca.

FEB. 7, Brampton, ON

Bramalea Stamp Club Annual Show and Bourse, Jim Archdekin Recreational Centre, High School Cafeteria, 292 Conestoga Dr. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Features include 10 dealers, exhibits, table auctions, youth table, club circuit books, refreshments. Free admission and parking. For more information, contact b62hkg@yahoo.ca, or call Bob Thorne, (905) 792-3526. Website: <http://bramaleastampclub.com>.

FEB. 8, Toronto, ON

Toronto Postcard Club 28th Annual Show, Humber College Gymnasium, Entrance D. Thousands of vintage postcards for sale from TPC member-dealers. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free parking. Admission \$5. Sponsor/Affiliate: Toronto Postcard Club. For more information go to www.torontopostcardclub.com, or e-mail: tpcannualshow@torontopostcardclub.com.

FEB. 21, Niagara Falls, ON

NIPEX 2009, Stamford Lions Club Hall, 3846 Portage Rd. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission. Sponsor/Affiliate: Niagara Philatelic Society. For more information, contact Ed Yonelinas, telephone 905-262-5127, e-mail: mastamps@computan.on.ca.

From Dr. Phil A. Telly...

*Stamps got you licked? Feeling stamped out?
Don't worry. Don't let it get you down,
Dr. Phil A. Telly has come to town!*

Hello Dr. Phil,

Lately I've been admiring my Admirals. I've noticed that there is a lot more to these handsome devils than first meets the eye! Some even come in fancy dress. I don't have any showing lathework myself. They appear to be on the

pricy side of the equation. Do you have samples of this lacy dressing? I understand that lathework is only on the bottom edge of the stamp sheet. Was it on every sheet? The listings for Admirals with lathework have another column with the heading of 'strength'. In this column 'strength' some items are described as: full, 40%, 80% or left blank. Can you please explain this to me?

Lovin' my men in uniform.



Hello Lovin',

Lathework was started about the start of 1917 on the Admiral issue. The main purpose of these fancy pants was for the printer to be able to easily detect wear of the plate so it could be recoated as needed.

There are none of these gems in my possession; I have no first hand knowledge of these stamps so I must rely on the writings of others for information.

These impressions were done in the colour of the stamp on all regular issues of the Admirals until discontinued at the end of 1924. All of the impressions I have seen are on the bottom of the sheet but none of my reference books refer to whether this was the only margin used or not, except the Unitrade Catalogue states that it is on the bottom margin. There are four common styles of lathework known as types A - D, which can also be found inverted. As for your reference to percentages this simply refers to the percentage of the margin that the lathework covers.

Hope your Lovin' my answer! Doc Phil

Thanks to RPSC library for photo

Dr. Phil A. Telly is our little syndicated column. If you've got questions for Dr. Phil please forward your questions to your editor. Questioners and Dr. Phil will be kept anonymous unless he or she requests otherwise.

The Crimean War By Ralph Wyndham

The Crimea is a peninsula in the Black Sea and is part of the Ukraine today. The spark for the war was a religious dispute. At this time, the Turkish Ottoman Empire controlled Palestine and had given many nations the right to protect Christians and their churches there. A dispute arose in Palestine between French Roman Catholics and Russian Orthodox Christians, rioting occurred and people were killed. Issues were not settled to Russia's satisfaction

This War Tax stamp was the first issue to have lathework. This example is

so in 1853 she occupied the Ottoman territories of Moldavia and Wallachia (now part of Romania). The Turks declared war on Russia in October 1853. Russia and the Turks had a number of naval encounters in 1853 but when a large portion of the Turkish fleet was destroyed at Sinop in November, the combined British and French fleet entered the Black Sea and the Russian fleet retired to Sevastopol on the Crimean Peninsula.



The British, fearful of Russian expansion in the Baltic and elsewhere, and the French Emperor, wanting to protect French monks in Palestine as well as wishing to regain for France some of the military glory of his famous uncle, Napoleon Bonaparte, demanded Russia leave Moldavia and Wallachia and declared war in March 1854 when Russia refused to do

so. Only after Austria threatened to throw its 50,000 man army into the fray against them, did the Russians withdraw.

The conflict could have ended here but the British and French felt that the Russian Fleet at Sevastopol still posed a threat to the region and had to be

Crimea is the large mass in the center north area of the Black Sea. Sevastopol is situated on an

destroyed. To that end, Allied troops landed on the peninsula north of Sevastopol in September 1854. The

Russians tried unsuccessfully to stop the Allies' advance to Sevastopol at the River Alma. The Russians scuttled their ships in the harbour as the Allies surrounded and prepared their siege of the town. The defenders initiated battles at Balaclava and Inkerman to try to prevent British and French progress. The fall and winter saw the war fall into largely trench and artillery warfare. The siege of Sevastopol continued through 1855 until the Russians destroyed their defenses and left the town under the cover of darkness in September.



These Russian stamps were released in 1954 on the centenary of the defense of Sevastopol. - 40k. A

The Russians moved to a defensive position north of Sevastopol. By November the French were willing to consider peace. The British, however, were still preparing for a spring offensive,

having finally gotten their military house in order. The Austrians again exerted their influence, this time to bring about an armistice agreement in February 1856 that was ratified in March 1856.

(The Crimean War is cont'd. on page 4)

(The Crimean War is cont'd. from page 3) Overall, during this war, the ordinary soldiers on both sides suffered from leadership and logistical failure. The most infamous military failure was the Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava. It would seem that a series of command miscommunications resulted in the order being given for the cavalry unit to assault the wrong position. The only officer who could possibly have shed light on the event, Captain Nolan, was the first killed. Surrounded by hostile forces, the unit was quickly decimated. 637 men took part and 113 were killed as well as nearly 500 of their horses.

On the administrative side, confusion and chaos reigned as well. For starters, the various

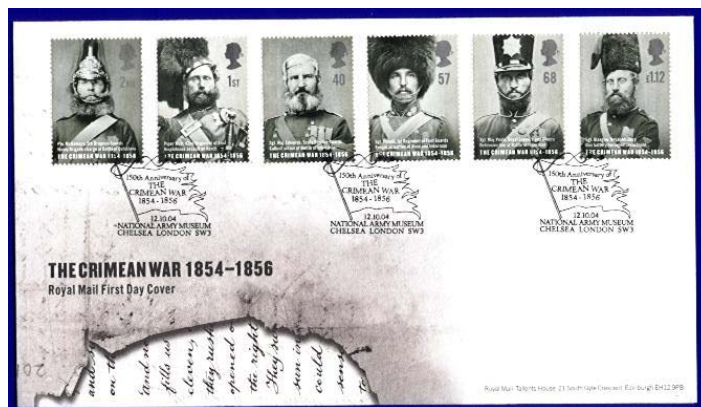
administrative branches of the army did not communicate with one another.

Compounding this

problem, a vicious storm in November destroyed many ships and their vital cargoes creating shortages of almost everything. There was insufficient feed for the pack animals to use them to carry supplies from the port to where the troops were positioned.

Care for the sick and wounded was dreadful. Typhus, cholera, dysentery and malaria killed many soldiers. Four times as many died from illness during the war than did from battle wounds. Newspaper accounts of conditions swayed public opinion in Britain and Florence Nightingale was recruited to deal with the situation. Florence and 38 nurses were brought to Scutari Hospital near Istanbul; the sick and wounded were brought here by ship from the Crimea. Patients were without blankets and still in their uniforms "stiff with filth and gore" when she arrived. Military authorities resisted her efforts at first but she did prevail. Her sanitation reforms dropped patient death rates from over 40% to 2% in a few months.

On October 12, 2004, the Royal Mail issued a set of six stamps to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the start of the Crimean War. It was decided that the subject of the series would be the ordinary soldier who simply went about his duties with courage and honour. Shown below is the entire set on a First Day Cover.



The Crimean War is the first in a series of articles by Ralph Wyndham. I look forward to reading the other three. Thanks Ralph! the ed.

Dues are Due!!!

It's January again and time to pay up! Membership fees are still only \$10.00 a head or \$15.00 per family. Please keep in mind that your annual membership fee doesn't even cover all the costs of producing and mailing your newsletter, so every paid up membership is greatly appreciated. If you can't pay in person please send a cheque to Bob Ford whose address is on the last page.

Youth memberships are still free. Why, you may ask, is it free for kids? Well that's because every one of us hopes that down through the generations another child will feel the thrill of discovering the world through these miniature bits of art and we have to do our bit to ensure that possibility!



On the Cover...

Ding ding! It's time for round two. Why stop now when you've got a good thing going? The Chinese New Year stamps have been a best seller for Canada Post Corporation and so a new 12 year cycle has begun. When CPC released its first issue of Chinese New Year stamps in 1997 the modest ox was only available in one denomination. The stamp was available in sheet form or as a fan shaped souvenir sheet created with a pair of the 45 cent stamps and a gold overprint logo of the Hong Kong '97 International Stamp Exhibition. Even in its humble beginnings the Ox stamp was available in a 'Lunar New Year Pack' produced in collaboration with China and Hong Kong. I haven't seen any signs of a 'Lunar New Year Pack' for this year

yet but there are plenty of other products for enthusiastic collectors. The international rate souvenir sheet shown on the left is available with or without the gold logo overprint for the China 2009 World Stamp Exhibition. It is particularly handsome on the red first day cover designed for it. The sheet is also included in the "last of a 12-year series ... 'Precious Coin Set'" and once again as a limited edition uncut press sheet. Both the domestic rate 'permanent' stamp and the international rate stamp are depicted on their own handsome post card as well. The image of the domestic rate Ox is shown on the top left of the souvenir sheet. The long vertical format of this year's souvenir sheet represents the traditional Chinese scroll and is expected to be used throughout the second cycle of this series.

The latest item for your Lunar shopping list is a red gold embossed binder to stable your animals in. The gold embossing is in English, French and Chinese with a Lunar calendar on the cover. It retails for \$28.88 before taxes and does not include any Vario sheets. This seems like overkill to me, however if you are a dedicated Lunar New Year collector then this binder is perfect for you.

The 2009
Year of the
Ox souvenir
sheet with

The Chinese calendar is based on the cycles of the moon and a cycle of the five elements from Chinese traditions. This Earth Ox year is represented by very earthy reds for good luck and the earthen vessel for food. Pottery-making is an extremely ancient tradition in China and the earth element is associated with the stomach, making the earthen food vessel a very appropriate symbol for this year. The pot on the stamp was made by Shu-Hwei Koa from Vancouver. Have a happy new year.

From the Editor...

We had a very good Christmas party at our last meeting. Phil Visser presented me with a gift as token of the club's appreciation of my efforts as editor of this newsletter. Thanks for your thoughtfulness Phil. A thank you gift was also there for Bob Ford, our Secretary/ Treasurer. Unfortunately Bob was unable to attend. Attendance in general was lower than anticipated. But too bad for those not in attendance! We had lots of items in the President's funny munny auction, so we all went home with a few items, some fat boy treats and an exchanged gift. There was plenty of chitchat and some of it wasn't even about stamps!

I am looking forward to seeing what gems John Cortan will have available on Wednesday night. It's a lot of work lugging all of that stuff around, so be sure to come and show him your support for his efforts.

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

The Owen Sound Stamp Club meets at 7:00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month in the basement of St. George's Anglican Church (corner of 10th St. E. and 4th Ave. E.). The main business of the evening is typically to trade, buy and sell stamps and philatelic material. An Auction is often held at 8:00 pm. There are presently about 20 active members whose interests cover just about everything at all levels, from beginner to expert.

Guests or new members are always most welcome.

Annual membership fees: Full-\$10; Family-\$15; Junior- Free

Members and guests contribute \$1 at each meeting which is passed directly to St. George's Church in appreciation for use of their room.

The OSSC Newsletter is distributed to all members. Opinions expressed in the newsletter are expressly those of the individual author.

Contributions to the newsletter are most welcome. Please submit any news, information, opinions or announcements to the editor.

Club Officers:

President: Phil Visser (519) 376-6760

RR #5., Owen Sound ON N4K 5N7

pvisser@hurontel.on.ca

Vice-Pres: John Cortan (519) 395-5817

P.O. Box 295, Ripley, ON NOG 2R0

jcortan@hurontel.on.ca

Sec./ Treas: Bob Ford (519) 376-4788

721 8th Ave. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K

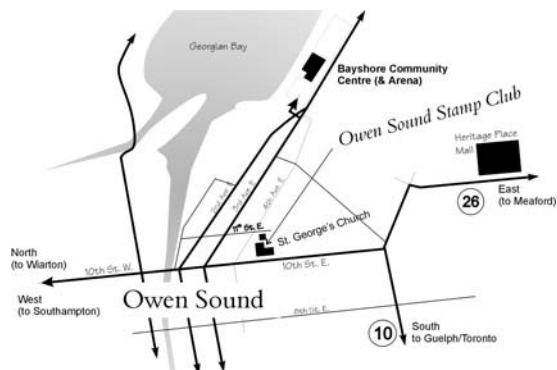
3A5

robford@log.on.ca

Editor: Marion Ace (519) 934-1998

P.O. Box 286, Tara ON NOH 2N0

marionace@bmts.com



Here is part of John Cortan's library. Give him a call if you'd like to borrow an item.

fcac = foreign catalog Can = Canadian Stamps PH = postal history Rev = Revenues
PST = Postal Stationary LIT = Literature ATA= American Topical Ass. PCD = Postcards

LIT	Stamps of Fame	L.N.&M. Williams	
PH	Canada BNA Philately an outline	Ed Richardson	
LIT	Canadian Postal Guide containing Regulations on		
	Money Orders Reprinted	John Dewe	1863
PCD	Postcard Views of Goderich		
PH	Postage Stamps and Postal history of Newfoundland	Winthrop S. Boggs	
	Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada Vol 1	Winthrop S. Boggs	
	Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada Vol 2	Winthrop S. Boggs	
	Postal Service Down the Centuries	Canada Post	

	A Survey of Recent Definitive Stamps 1972-1994	John G. Schmidt
PH	The Handbook and Catalog of Canadian Transportation Postmarks	T.P.G. Shaw
PH	American Airmail Catalog Vol. 4	
PH	A History of Canadian RPO's	
PH	Newfoundland Airmails 1919-1939 1984	
PH	The Nova Scotia Post its Offices, Masters and Marks 1700-1867	J.J. Macdonald
PH	The Airmails of Canada and Newfoundland	
Can	Holmes Specialized Catalog of Canada and BNA 8 th Ed.	Holmes 1954
Can	Holmes Specialized Catalog of Canada and BNA 9 th Ed.	Holmes 1960
Can	Holmes Specialized Catalog of Canada and BNA 11 th Ed.	Holmes 1968